

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2008***

**Present:** Selectmen Wes Moore, Michael Woodworth, and Rosanne Gilbert; Main Street Arts representatives Kelley Corson, Marcia Kovalik, Win Fream, and Natalie Fream; Ray Buxton; Chief Reed; Chief Buxton; Fran Lane; Sue McKinnon; and Nancy Spencer.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by Wes Moore.

Wes volunteered to work with the Main Street Art representatives on a proposed five year lease on the old post office building located on Main Street. The group has to attend the Deliberative Session to answer questions that residents may have about this undertaking.

Ray Buxton met with the Selectmen about Warrant Article 10 – selling a landlocked piece of land (Map 206 Lot 6.1) to the Water and Sewer Department for the purpose of a pump station. The Water and Sewer Department does not need the land right now, but may need it in the future. The sale has been put on hold until the land is needed.

Ray was thanked for repairing the windows in the cupola. He took out each pane of glass and re-caulked them. This should prevent any water from entering the building from the cupola. Ray did a great job.

A forester will be marking trees to be cut on the Water and Sewer Department land off of Baker Street. Cutting these trees will improve the quality of the other trees. There may be some noise from the chipping machine, but it should not last more than a week.

The Police Chief and Fire Chief met last week and have agreed on a policy for ambulance calls at accident scenes.

A discussion about dispatch took place.

The Town can use the Seabrook Sirens for the fire department. The cost to convert the siren should be under \$1,000. Tom Conner of the Emergency Management Department is handling this.

Changing the telephone service to a new carrier was discussed. Chief Buxton is agreeable and said that 659-2022 can be discontinued. Chief Reed agreed that 772-2323 can be discontinued.

The State Fire Marshall should be in town next week to inspect 34 Railroad Avenue.

The washer and dryer donated to the Fire Department 28 years ago are unable to be repaired and need to be replaced. Chief Buxton asked if a check could be issued off cycle in order to purchase replacements. The Selectmen agreed to this.

Chief Reed answered questions about department coverage and officer utilization, detail analysis, grants, and on-call hours.

Michael asked if there is sufficient coverage to protect the town. The answer was no – you would need six full-time and two part-time officers for 24 hour coverage 7 days a week.

At 8:10pm the meeting went into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 III. The meeting re-opened to the public at 8:40pm. At 8:45pm the meeting went into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:II. The meeting re-opened to the public at 9:20pm.

Rosanne made a motion to accept Charles Daley's application for current use. Michael seconded the motion which passed with all in favor.

Wes signed a revised Baseline Documentation Report.

The Selectmen have agreed on the following dates for the 2009 Budget.

- Tuesday, January 13, 2009 last day to submit Petitioned Warrant Articles. They need to be submitted to the Town Office by 2pm
- Tuesday, January 13, 2009 – Budget Hearing at 7pm
- Saturday, January 31, 2009 – Deliberative Session at 9am. This is a change from previous years.
- Tuesday, March 10, 2009 – Voting Day from 8am-7pm
- Wednesday, January 21 to Friday, January 30 – Filing period for declaration of candidacy for town officers.

The history of the old post office building since the Town purchased it in December of 2005 was approved. It will be sent to the insurance company for use in processing a claim for frozen pipes.

Checks were signed.

Rosanne's research on the number of students and costs at the various schools indicates that the cost per student at the Newfields Elementary School is approximately \$12,000. The cost per student at SAU16, Cooperative Middle School, Charter School, and SST is approximately \$16,000.

Warrant Articles are not required to be reviewed by the Department of Revenue Administration. The Town has submitted Warrant Articles for review for decades and should continue to do so as it is the best practice.

Correspondence from the Board of Tax and Land Appeals was reviewed.

The NH Employment Security Economic Bulletin was reviewed.

Correspondence was received from Comcast advising that as of January 9, 2009 channel CN8 network will no longer be available.

Invoices from Civilworks, Inc. were reviewed. They will not be paid until the Town has received an escrow payment from the developer.

Nancy was asked to place a sign on the emergency exit door in the Town Hall – do not block this door at any time – this is an emergency exit.

The Town Office will be closed the following days for the holidays:

Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 11:30am and 1:30pm

Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

January 1<sup>st</sup>

Michael made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 2, 2008 meeting as amended. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Wes will give an update next week on the proposed extension of the Bestway Contract.

Rosanne made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50pm. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer  
Administrative Assistant